



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

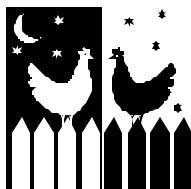
WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 28, 2001
VOL. 48 NO. 26

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch



NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE

Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady. Retail demand was light to moderate. Food service was fair to good, best for fast food and where features were noted. Supplies were generally adequate to close balanced for trade needs. In the parts structure, bone-in breasts and wings were in close balance and clearing well. Boneless skinless breasts were available. Other items were mostly sufficient. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mixed, but mostly desirable.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading advanced .25 cent to 62.00 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 57.25 cents last year on the 1st of March, 2000.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)

BREASTS - B/S	145.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	76.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	94.00
LEG QUARTERS	23.50
WINGS	90.50

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

15 STATES	PERCENT CHANGE	
WEEK ENDING 02/24/01	2001	2000
EGGS SET	183,200	183,373
CHICKS PLACED	142,680	141,374
		PREVIOUS YEAR
		0
		+01

BROILER EGGS SET IN 15 SELECTED STATES DOWN SLIGHTLY

Commercial hatcheries in the 15-State weekly program set 183 million eggs in incubators during the week ending February 24, 2001. This was down slightly from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 82 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED UP 1 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 15-State weekly program placed 143 million chicks for meat production during the week ending February 24, 2001. Placements were up 1 percent from the comparable week in 2000. Cumulative placements from December 31, 2000 through February 24, 2001 were 1.14 billion, down 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

BASED ON THE PRELIMINARY CHICK PLACEMENTS, THE NUMBER OF FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING DURING THE WEEK ENDING 07-Apr-01 IS ESTIMATED AT 146.9 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 147.2 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 152.9 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 158.1 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 54.35 CENTS PER POUND.

WESTERN The market tone was fully steady. Offerings adequate and held with confidence. Some sellers quoted higher prices for new negotiations. Buyer's needs centered on regular commitments with interest in additional product slow to develop. Demand by stores light to moderate and restaurants moderate to fairly good, best for parts and to cover features. Floor stocks adequate.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady. Demand was light to moderate, best for retail ads and fast food promotional activity. Supplies were in good balance to well cleared for trade needs. In the parts structure, wings continued tight with strong movement. Breast items were no more than adequate, but more available for boneless skinless, and dark meat items were usually sufficient with fair movement. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were irregular, but mostly desirable.

MIDWEST Whole broiler/fryer trade sentiment was steady to fully steady. Additional product offerings were light for a like demand. Retail movement was slow to fair, mostly fair. Food service demand was moderate to occasionally good. Receivers optimistic of increased demand for first of the month business. Floor stocks were adequate overall with sizes mixed. In the parts complex, interest on wings was moderate with the balance of trading hand to mouth. Supplies of whole breasts irregular, wings barely adequate to short and the remainder of items were adequate or available. The market tone was fully steady to firm on wings, steady to fully steady on bone-in breasts and mostly steady on the remainder of items.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers remained light and unaggressive as dealers continued with a cautious and selective posture. Offerings of all sizes were generally adequate to balanced with the limited demand. Movement into retail and distributive channels was no better than fair. The market tone continued at least steady to fully steady. In the parts complex, boneless-skinless breasts were usually available. Bone-in breasts were balanced to adequate, and wings were no more than adequate to tight at times. The balance of parts were more than sufficient, although, boneless-skinless thighs were usually well cleared.

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was light to fair and about normal for mid-week and the start of the Lenten period. Seller offerings were generally adequate. Live supplies were about moderate; weights remained mixed in a full range of light to heavy. Processing schedules were moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 58 to 72 cents. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady. In the parts complex, supplies were adequate to closely cleared. Boneless skinless breasts were generally available. Wings and boneless skinless thighs were often noted as in close balance.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A

RANGE	55-69
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	61.16
NO. OF BOXES	12,264

*7 of 8 plants reporting.

FEBRUARY 27, 2001

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

FEBRUARY 28, 2001

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	940	120.00-215.00	140-150	144.31
TENDERLOINS	172	140.00-210.00	140-145	148.14
BREAST - LINE RUN	93	75.00-81.00	75-77	75.45
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	126	30.00-40.00	31-33	31.43
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	386	17.00-21.00	17-18	19.03
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,465	18.00-24.00	21-22	21.24
WINGS (WHOLE)	329	87.00-91.00	88-89	88.15
WINGS (CUT)	601	87.00-115.00	102-105	104.55
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	108	84.00-98.00	-	90.04

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	881	125.00-215.00	145-150	144.26
TENDERLOINS	180	140.00-210.00	140-145	147.78
BREAST - LINE RUN	129	75.00-81.00	76-78	77.00
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	126	30.00-40.00	31-33	31.43
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	306	16.00-20.00	18-19	19.08
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,415	18.00-24.00	21-23	21.65
WINGS (WHOLE)	329	87.00-91.00	87-89	88.15
WINGS (CUT)	617	87.00-120.00	102-105	105.85
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	108	87.00-93.00	-	90.30

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
46.00 - 51.00	49.31	47.00-53.00	50.21	48.02

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Midweek trucklot buying interest was light as dealers remained cautious and continued to work on a hand-to-mouth basis. Offerings of boneless skinless breasts were at least adequate to available, and bone-in in breasts ranged adequate to balanced. Wings continued to see strong interest and were clearing well, and boneless-skinless thigh meat was no more than adequate. Movement through retail and distributive channels was only fair, however, foodservice sectors were actively drawing product from the market. The market tone was fully steady to instances firm on wings and boneless-skinless thigh meat, at least steady on the balance.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

FEBRUARY 27, 2001

FEBRUARY 28, 2001

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	135	136.81	619,240
TENDERLOINS	130-135	133.09	130,976
BREAST - WITH RIBS	70-71	76.93	270,080
BREAST - LINE RUN	70	73.73	210,000
LEGS	32-33	35.63	249,880
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	20-21	22.21	570,537
DRUMSTICKS	28-29	34.34	199,673
THIGHS	29-30	33.85	161,553
B/S THIGHS	89-90	93.82	35,520
WINGS (WHOLE)	85-86	94.71	367,863
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.00	66,440
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	34.46	54,055
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	44.77	78,180

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	135	138.86	493,200
TENDERLOINS	130-135	135.07	77,560
BREAST - WITH RIBS	70-71	76.68	256,040
BREAST - LINE RUN	70	73.55	211,400
LEGS	32-33	35.97	192,680
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	20-21	21.32	580,733
DRUMSTICKS	28-29	35.05	140,640
THIGHS	29-30	33.24	168,080
B/S THIGHS	90-91	93.37	47,080
WINGS (WHOLE)	86-87	95.32	376,320
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.98	77,840
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	34.50	58,788
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	45-50	49.17	81,124

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	AVG				AVG			
	ESTIMATED	ACTUAL	WTS	ACTUAL	WTS	ESTIMATED	ACTUAL	WTS
	02/28	02/27	02/26	02/23	02/26	02/23	02/21	02/19
ALA	3,605	3,895	3,614	3,846	5.09	4.88	3,484	5.04
ARK	5,250	5,292	5,175	4,092	4.95	4.78	5,136	4.97
DELMARVA	2,290	2,292	2,096	2,028	5.07	4.83	2,264	5.01
KY-LA-TN	1,909	1,719	1,857	1,945	4.38	4.38	1,842	4.26
MISS	2,697	2,621	2,702	2,366	4.97	4.83	2,387	4.98
NC	2,593	2,583	2,438	2,557	5.77	5.71	2,493	5.69
TEXAS	2,126	2,310	2,271	2,205	4.95	4.77	2,219	4.96
TOTAL	20,470	20,712	20,153	19,039	5.04	4.89	19,825	5.01
MON-WED 61,310 (A)	59,226 (A)							

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 28-Feb 01 and is estimated to be 30,625,000 down 1.76 percent from a week ago and up 0.0 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,173,000; last year 30,625,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RETAILERS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	82-85
ROASTERS 4# & UP	71-90
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	81
DUCKS	139

RABBITS-WHOLE
RABBITS-CUT UP

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY**DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	93-98
	DRY PACK	108
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	104-111
	DRY PACK	116
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	93
	DRY PACK	91
DUCKS		152-172

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING MAR 03-01

	CURRENT WEEK 03/03/01 (1)	PREVIOUS WEEK 02/24/01
CLASS	THOUSAND HEAD	
BRO-FRY	152,244 (2)	149,551
LT HENS	1,873	1,882
HVY HENS	1,340	1,348
CHECK TOTAL	155,457	152,781

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 03-Mar-01 is 151.3 million head compared to 156.8 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 152.5 million head or 1.2 million more than estimated available. For week of 10-Mar-01 the estimated available is 151.3 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

SELECTED STORAGE CENTERS

(INCLUDES GOVERNMENT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY LBS	PROCESSED POULTRY LBS
AM 26-Feb-01	102,573	68,859
AM 1-Feb-01	92,899	73,442
CHG	9,674	-4,583
PCT CHG	10	-6

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	02/26/01	02/19/01	02/28/00	02/26/01	02/19/01	02/28/00
PACIFIC						
COAST	4,731	4,257	10,563	6,096	5,752	11,869
LOS ANGELES	104	113	100	2,266	2,179	3,079

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 02/27/01

	LOW	HIGH	AVG		LOW	HIGH	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.40	.50	.43	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	.50	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	1.00	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	.45	-	BANTAMS ea.	-	4.25	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	.40	.55	.49	ROASTERS ea.	-	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	.30	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	3.00	-
ROOSTERS lb.	.50	1.30	.72	ROOSTERS ea.	1.50	2.75	-
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	-	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-	-
DUCKS lb.	-	1.00	-	DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
RABBITS lb.	.25	1.25	.88	RABBITS ea.	1.00	5.00	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	1.00	2.50	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	-	8.25	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	2.00	5.00	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-				

TOTAL COOPS 70

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF FEBRUARY 26, 2001

	RANGE
HENS ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	56-62
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	59-69

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS-Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending February 23, 2001

	Whole Chickens	Breasts	Legs W/ Thighs	Necks, Backs & Wings	Livers/ Gizzards	Hens
RAYON						
Low	49.10	116.91	56.12	18.71	3.27	46.76
High	52.37	130.94	79.50	28.06	4.68	51.44
Mostly	49.57	116.91	70.14	18.71	3.27	51.44
SAN JUAN						
Low	50.97	126.26	70.14	21.04	4.68	42.09
High	54.24	144.97	93.53	37.41	8.42	46.76
Mostly	53.78	135.61	79.50	28.06	7.01	46.76
NEW SAN JUAN						
Low	49.57	116.91	65.47	14.03	3.27	46.76
High	52.37	126.26	74.82	23.38	4.68	51.44
Mostly	49.57	116.91	70.14	14.03	3.27	49.10
BECERRA						
Low	51.44	126.26	74.82	23.38	4.68	44.42
High	54.24	144.97	98.20	37.41	8.42	46.76
Mostly	53.78	130.94	88.85	28.06	5.61	45.83

USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS.**POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Grover T. Hunter
	Fax	(202)720-2403	(Chief)
Atlanta, GA	Voice	(404)562-5850	Johnny Freeman
	Fax	(404)562-5875	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(404)562-5856	
Jackson, MS	Voice	(601)965-4662	Gary Brown
	Fax	(601)965-4661	(Southeast Supervisor)
Des Moines, IA	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins
	Fax	(515)284-4468	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(515)284-4545	
Bell, CA	Voice	(323)269-4154	Jim Derby
	Fax	(323)269-5926	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(323)260-4676	